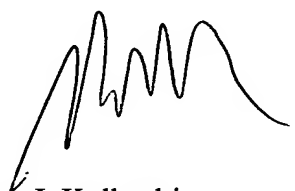


This application is a divisional application of parent application Serial No.  
09/630,430, filed on August 1, 2000.

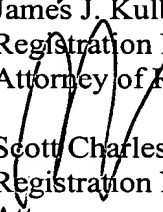
Accordingly, an action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



James J. Kulbaski  
Registration No. 34,648  
Attorney of Record



Scott Charles Richardson  
Registration No. 43,436  
Attorney

(703) 413-3000 (Phone)  
(703) 413-2220 (Facsimile)  
JJK/SCR:cbt

Robert T. Pous  
Registration No. 29,099

I:\atty\SCR\0039\JJK\219512us\prelim amdt.doc

0067601029200F